



RILEY
PURGATORY
BLUFF CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT



2022 Calendar

PROTECT. MANAGE. RESTORE.

Managers, Staff & Consultants

Board of Managers

The Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District Board of Managers meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Meetings will be held virtually until further notice. Changes to the schedule are posted on the District website rpbcwd.org.

Board of Managers: Name, city of residence, term expiration date



Larry Koch <i>Chanhassen</i> July 2024	David Ziegler <i>Eden Prairie</i> July 2022	Dorothy Pederson <i>Shorewood</i> July 2023	Dick Ward <i>Eden Prairie</i> July 2023	Jill Crafton <i>Bloomington</i> July 2024
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Staff

Terry Jeffery
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952-807-6885

Amy Bakkum
Office
Administrator
952-607-6026

Liz Forbes
Grant Program
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952-607-6481

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Consultants

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Barr Engineering
952-832-2755

Smith Partners PLLP
Legal Advisor
612-344-1400

51 Years of Watershed Protection

The Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District was established on July 31, 1969. The District is a local government unit charged with protecting, managing, and restoring water resources. It encompasses all the land that drains into any of the three creeks in its name. At about 50 square miles, it includes parts of seven cities (Bloomington, Chanhassen, Chaska, Deephaven, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, and Shorewood), and two counties (Carver and Hennepin).

The District is led by residents and water professionals. Five managers (four appointed by the Hennepin County Commissioners and one by Carver) serve three-year terms directing District activities. The District partners with local communities to identify top priorities and plan, implement, and manage efforts to protect clean water. The District works to educate and engage community members in this stewardship. Watershed activities are funded through property tax levies.

From the Administrator

Well, we made it. I think we all have those moments where we ask, "When was that?" Months and years blur together, but we all still did what we needed. I have been in awe of the resiliency of our community leaders, grassroots organizations, and citizen champions during this period. Throughout all of this, some great things have happened. The Board of Managers has reaffirmed their dedication to the mission of RPBCWD as Managers Crafton and Koch both were reappointed for another three years. We also saw our staff knowledge grow with the addition of Eleanor Mahon and Liz Forbes. But, most importantly, we continued to protect your water resources.

The RPBCWD found a new partner in the Bearpath Golf and Country Club community when we worked together to stabilize two sizeable sections of Riley Creek near holes 12, 13, and 16. St. Hubert Catholic School also showed their dedication to water resource protection when they partnered with us to install a tree trench, a rain garden, and stabilize a gully discharging into Rice Marsh Lake. The RPBCWD also completed the work in lower Riley Creek in a partnership with the City of Eden Prairie and began work on another project on Rice Marsh Lake in collaboration with the City of Chanhassen.

Speaking of Chanhassen, the RPBCWD is exploring options for education and recreation partnership opportunities on the land the city preserved around Lake Ann. The RPBCWD is also looking to stabilize the final priority reach of Riley Creek in collaboration with Chanhassen. 2022 should also see some work in the Lotus Lake watershed as we look at ravines that require stabilization.

We will continue to offer training and volunteer opportunities as well as stewardship grants for water resource protection. If you would like to get involved, please contact Terry Jeffery or Liz Forbes. As always, thank you for your support and your assistance as we all do our part to protect the lakes, streams, and wetlands within and downstream of RPBCWD.



Sincerely,
Terry Jeffery
Interim District Administrator

Restoring wetlands on Pioneer Trail

In September of 2021, preparations began at the site of a wetland and upland habitat restoration project on seven acres of land owned by the Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District. The goal of the project is to restore the land's hydrology to a near pre-development state and reduce runoff to nearby Bluff Creek.

Upon completion, the project will improve water quality in Bluff Creek through decreased phosphorus and sediment loading, regulate hydrology through increased floodwater detention, and provide habitat for wildlife and pollinators through diverse native plantings.

This project is made possible through funding from Minnesota's Clean Water Fund and with the help of our partners at the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and the City of Chanhassen.



St. Hubert Opportunity Project

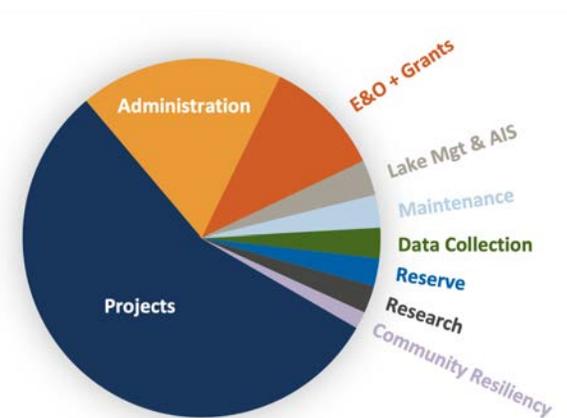
In 2019, the District began exploring a potential stormwater retrofit of the St. Hubert Catholic School grounds. Four project areas were identified: A retrofit of the parking lot median to incorporate a tree trench to collect water from the adjacent parking lot, a retrofit of an existing playground to incorporate underground storage of stormwater runoff from the school roof, the repair of a storm sewer inlet and eroded gully featuring native plants and a rain garden, and the restoration of a turf grass parcel into a native prairie.

The project broke ground in June of 2021 and was substantially completed before the new school year began; the remaining component being the planting and three-year establishment period of the native prairie. The changes made to the St. Hubert campus are expected to treat runoff across 3.6 acres, keeping over 400 pounds of suspended solids and nearly two pounds of phosphorus out of the Rice Marsh Lake watershed each year.

Your tax dollars at work

The Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District is funded through property tax levies. We want to thank our community for their part in our mission of protecting, managing, and restoring our freshwater resources.

The 2021 levy was \$3,680,000, and the complete budget, including funds from previous levies, was \$7,558,007. These funds have gone to projects like these, as well as towards administration, maintenance, research, lake and creek monitoring, aquatic invasive species management (AIS), education and outreach (E&O) and grant funding, community resiliency, and a reserve fund for emergencies.



Follow along with us!

Subscribe to our newsletter at rpbcwd.org/subscribe, or find us on social media @rpbcwd.



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JANUARY



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Safe roads and healthy waters

Salt is an important tool for public safety in the winter, but can have detrimental effects on the health of our water. Just one teaspoon of salt can permanently pollute five gallons of water - once it's there, we can't get it out! Help protect our freshwater resources by attending an MPCA Smart Salting training to learn how to stay safe while using less salt.



1
New Year's Day

2 ● New moon	3	4	5 RPBCWD Board Meeting 7:00 PM <i>National Bird Day</i>	6 <i>Epiphany</i>	7 <i>Orthodox Christmas</i>	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 <i>Makar Sankranti Orthodox New Year</i>	15
16	17 ○ Full moon <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day Tu B'Shevat</i>	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting 6:00 PM	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 ● New moon	<i>Inset photo by Tom Duevel, Purgatory Creek</i>				



FEBRUARY



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 <i>Lunar New Year</i>	3 RPBCWD Board Meeting 7:00 PM <i>World Wetlands Day</i>	4	5 <i>Vasant Panchami</i>	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15	16 ○ Full moon	17	18	19
20	21 RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting 6:00 PM <i>Presidents' Day</i>	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 	<h2>In the field</h2> <p>Even in the winter, our staff are out on the lakes collecting and analyzing data. Year-round monitoring allows us to better understand our waters and the factors that influence the health of our lakes and creeks. Learn more at rpbcwd.org/water-quality.</p>				

Top inset photo by Maria Pazandak, Bloomington

Bottom inset photo: Staff show Lake Idlewild some love while collecting data on Valentine's Day



MARCH



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 ● New moon RPBCWD Board Meeting 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Daylight Savings begins	14 Intl. Day of Action for Rivers	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day Purim	18 ○ Full moon Holi Global Recycling Day	19 Mid-Sha'ban
20 Spring Equinox	21 RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting 6:00 PM	22 World Water Day	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	<h2>Apply for a grant</h2> <p>Are you working on a project that will help protect clean water? The District offers financial support and resources to help. Learn more at rpbcwd.org/grants.</p>	

Inset photo by Aaron Pietsch, Hyland Lake



APRIL



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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Volunteer with us

There are so many ways to have a positive impact on our waters, and we can't do it all alone. From helping us monitor for invasive species, to taking your business or organization out for a street clean-up day, to committing to become a Minnesota Water Steward, there are plenty of ways to get involved. Visit rpbcwd.org/volunteer to learn more.



					1 ● New moon	2 <i>Ramadan begins</i>
3	4	5	6 RPBCWD Board Meeting 7:00 PM	7	8	9
10 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	11	12	13	14 <i>Vaisakhi</i>	15 <i>Good Friday Passover begins</i>	16 ○ Full moon
17 <i>Easter</i>	18 RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting 6:00 PM	19	20	21	22 <i>Earth Day Orthodox Good Friday</i>	23 <i>Passover ends</i>
24 <i>Orthodox Easter</i>	25	26	27 <i>Yom HaShoah</i>	28	29 <i>Laylat al-Qadr Arbor Day</i>	30 ● New moon

Inset photo by Sharon McCotter, Lake Lucy



MAY



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>May Day</i>	2 <i>Ramadan ends</i>	3 <i>Eid al-Fitr</i>	4	5 <i>Cinco de Mayo</i>	6	7
8 <i>Mother's Day</i>	9	10	11 RPBCWD Board Meeting 7:00 PM	12	13	14
15 ○ Full moon	16 RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting 6:00 PM	17	18	19	20 <i>World Bee Day</i> <i>National Bike to Work Day</i>	21 <i>World Fish Migration Day</i>
22	23 <i>World Turtle Day</i>	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 ● New moon <i>Memorial Day</i>	31				

Protect our pollinators

A healthy ecosystem needs plenty of pollinators. You can help protect your neighborhood bees and butterflies by converting your traditional turf lawn into a low-mow or bee lawn. Attend a training to learn more about pollinator-friendly lawn alternatives.

Inset photo by Maria Pazandak, Bloomington



JUNE



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Caring for your lawn It's normal for cool-season grasses like Kentucky bluegrass to go brown in a drought - it's just going dormant to protect its roots. You can help your lawn before a drought by never mowing off more than the top third of the leaf blades. Learn more at rpscwd.org/lawn-care-drought .			1 RPBCWD Board Meeting 7:00 PM	2	3	4 <i>Shavuot</i>
5 <i>Pentecost World Environment Day</i>	6	7	8 <i>World Ocean Day</i>	9	10	11
12	13	14 ○ Full moon	15	16	17	18
19 <i>Juneteenth Father's Day</i>	20 RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting 6:00 PM <i>Juneteenth (Observed)</i>	21 <i>Summer Solstice</i>	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 ● New moon	29	30		

Inset photo by Gretchen Meek, Purgatory Creek



JULY



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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Stop aquatic hitchhikers

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) are organisms that are not native to their environment. They can cause great harm to an aquatic ecosystem by spreading rapidly and outcompeting native species. Always remember to thoroughly clean your boat and remove your drain plug to ensure you aren't inadvertently transporting invasive species to other waterbodies. Learn more at rpscwd.org/AIS.

					1	2
3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5	6 RPBCWD Board Meeting 7:00 PM	7	8	9
10 <i>Eid al-Adha begins</i>	11	12	13 ○ Full moon	14	15	16
17	18 RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting 6:00 PM	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 ● New moon	29	30 <i>Muharram begins</i>



Inset photo by Rajendran Thiagarajan, Purgatory Creek



AUGUST



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 <i>Ashura</i>	9	10 RPBCWD Board Meeting 7:00 PM	11 ○ Full moon <i>Raksha Bandhan</i>	12	13
14	15 RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting 6:00 PM	16	17	18	19 <i>Krishna Janmashtami</i>	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 ● New moon
28	29	30	31 <i>Ganesh Chaturthi</i>	<h2>Shake up your shoreline</h2> <p>A natural shoreline reduces runoff and captures pollution before it enters a lake. Consider restoring your shore to its natural state! Not only will you protect your shoreline from erosion, but you'll also reduce pollution entering the lake and create an oasis for wildlife. Learn more at rpbcwd.org/shoreline.</p>		

Inset photo by Sharon McCotter, Lake Lucy



SEPTEMBER



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Back to school We love our district's educators! As teachers return to their classrooms, they can visit rpbcwd.org/education to explore our available resources. From applying for an education grant, borrowing our water education toolkits, or inviting staff to visit your classroom and lead a water lesson, we have your back!				1	2	3
4	5 <i>Labor Day</i>	6	7 RPBCWD Board Meeting 7:00 PM	8	9	10 ○ Full moon
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 <i>World Water Monitoring Day</i>	19 RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting 6:00 PM	20	21	22 <i>Fall Equinox</i>	23	24
25 ● New moon	26 <i>Rosh Hashana Navaratri begins</i>	27	28	29	30	

Inset photo by Jeff Parker, Lake Riley



OCTOBER



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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Spoil your soil

Healthy soil isn't just good for plants - all life on earth depends on it. When cared for properly, soil can be a crucial tool in mitigating against climate change through its ability to capture and store carbon dioxide. Composting at home is an easy way to take care of both your soil and our planet. Learn more at rpbcwd.org/soil.



2	3	4	5 RPBCWD Board Meeting 7:00 PM <i>Yom Kippur</i>	6	7	8 <i>Mawlid al-Nabi</i>
9 ○ Full moon	10 <i>Indigenous People's Day Sukkot begins</i>	11	12	13	14	15
16 <i>Sukkot ends</i>	17 RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting 6:00 PM <i>Shmini Atzeret</i>	18 <i>Simchat Torah</i>	19	20	21	22
23	24 <i>Diwali</i>	25 ● New moon	26	27	28	29
30	31 <i>Halloween</i>					

Top inset photo: Community members ride along Purgatory Creek with staff for the annual Cycle the Creek event
Bottom inset photo by Isaac Swartz, Rice Marsh Lake



NOVEMBER



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 <i>All Saints' Day</i> <i>Día de los Muertos begins</i>	3 RPBCWD Board Meeting 7:00 PM <i>All Souls' Day</i>	4	5	
6 <i>Daylight Savings Time ends</i>	7	8 ○ Full moon <i>Election Day</i>	9	10	11 <i>Veteran's Day</i>	12
13	14 RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting 6:00 PM	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 ● New moon	24 <i>Thanksgiving</i>	25	26
27 <i>Advent begins</i>	28	29	30	<h2>Rake for your lakes</h2> <p>Storm drains flow directly into our lakes and creeks, carrying leaves, trash and other debris and nutrients that can, in abundance, harm our waters. Adopting a drain is an easy and important step in preventing this. Learn more at adopt-a-drain.org.</p>		

Inset photo by Kelley Regan, Red Rock Lake



DECEMBER



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Capture your watershed Most of the photos in this calendar were submitted by community members to our photo contest. Have you gotten outside and explored a new area of the district? Snap some photos and hang on to them for our next photo contest. We can't wait to see what you discover!				1	2	3
4	5 <i>World Soil Day</i>	6	7 ○ Full moon RPBCWD Board Meeting 7:00 PM	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting 6PM <i>Chanukah begins</i>	20	21 <i>Winter Solstice</i>	22	23 ● New moon	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>
25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26 <i>Chanukah ends Kwanzaa begins</i>	27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>

Inset photo by Levi Janssen, Purgatory Creek

2021 AT A GLANCE

- ★ Projects
- 💧 Watershed Stewardship Grants
- 🌿 Water Quality Monitoring Site
- 🌱 Workshop/Event/Outreach
- 🟡 Permits Issued



Monitoring Sites



Grants Awarded



Permits Issued



Active Projects



Thousands of \$
in grants received



Partner Organizations

